INFORMATION BULLETIN



WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

Number: WIAB01-97

Date: March 28, 2002 Expiration Date: 12/31/02

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: TECHNOLOGY TO TEACHING INITIATIVE

The purpose of this transmittal is to announce the Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA) that were awarded funds to implement the Technology to Teaching initiative statewide program.

On November 19, 2001, the Governor announced the availability of \$1.6 million of 25 percent Workforce Investment Act funds to retrain and employ up to 200 laid-off technology workers. This initiative is intended to train dislocated technology workers to become part of the State's education workforce, and to meet California's increased demand for new Math and Science teachers in the K-12 school districts. The allocated funds will pay for the education courses necessary for teacher certification for individuals who meet the qualifying criteria. Funds can be used to pay for books, testing fees, support services, case management, counseling and overall project management for dislocated technology workers interested in becoming educators.

On December 27, 2001, the Employment Development Department in collaboration with the Governor's Office of the Secretary for Education, invited all LWIAs to apply for these funds through Information Bulletin <u>WIAB01-66</u>. Five applications were received and all five have been awarded funding for this initiative. The LWIAs receiving funds are listed below.

City of Oakland (EASTBAY Works includes City of Richmond, Contra Costa and Alameda Counties)	\$400,000
Sonoma County	\$120,000
City of San Jose	\$400,000
NOVA Consortium	\$536,000
Ventura County	\$144,000

The LWIAs receiving funds will be working closely with the Teacher Recruitment Centers or satellite office in their areas to screen candidates, provide counseling, and assist with job placement. In addition, they have all agreed to convene on a regular basis throughout the project to share best practices and provide technical assistance to each other.

The funding for this program was limited and the interest exceeded our expectations. As a result, there may be interested candidates for this program in areas outside of those receiving funding. Therefore, we encourage the local areas that did not apply for these funds to screen the interested candidates and work with your Regional Advisors to find the best way to provide services to these participants. Local areas that received Technology to Teaching funds may be willing to share ideas from their experience in providing services to participants in their program.

In addition, we recommend working with the Teacher Recruitment Centers (TRC) to find ways to assist these participants in their quest to become teachers. The TRC have experience in this area and can provide a wealth of information. Their Web site is www.calteach.com.

If you have any questions, please contact your <u>Regional Advisor</u>, or Martie Evans at <u>mevans@edd.ca.gov</u> or (916) 651-6057.

/S/ BILL BURKE Chief Workforce Investment Division